

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 PC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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DEPARTMENT PASS AID AND PEACE CORPS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, NG

SUBJECT: GON COMMENTS ON USAID AND PEACE CORPS IN NIGER

1. DURING APRIL 23-25 VISIT TO NIGER NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE MET WITH VICE PRESIDENT SANI SIDOU, FONMIN DJERMAKOYE AND CHIEF OF STAFF OF NEGERIEN FORCES CAAPTAIN ALI SAIBOU. COMMENTS FONMIN DJERMAKOYE ABOUT US ASSISTANCE TO NIGER ARE WORTH NOTING AS HE WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO TELL NWC VISITORS ABOUT NIGER'S GRATITUDE FOR US ASSISTANCE IN BOTH EMERGENCY RELIEF MEASURES AND MORE LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT.

2. DJERMAKOYE SAID HE WANTED TAKE OPPORTUNITY DURING NWC VISIT, TO GO ON RECORD WITH EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION FOR EXTENT AND NATURE OF US ASSISTANCE. HE SAID US HAD BEEN GENEROUS IN MATERIAL THINGS SUCH AS OVER \$30 MILLION EMERGENCY FOOD AID AS WELL AS EQUIPMENT, TRUCKS, MEDICAL SUPPLIES, ETC. EQUALLY IMPORTANT WAS HUMAN ELEMENT. HE WISHED TO COMMEND USAID STAFF IN NEGER WHOSE PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT WAS VALUED AND RESPECTED AND WHO UNDER TRYING ACTIONS HAD KEPT THEIR SENSE OF HUMOR. GON OFFICIALS LIKE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION WITH WHICH AID STAFF WENT ABOUT ITS BUSINESS.

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3. DJERMAKOYE CONCLUDED WITH SPECIAL NOTE OF PRAISE
FOR PEACE CORPS. REFERRING AGAIN TO HUMAN ELEMENT, HE SAID
HE WISHED TO TAKE SPECIAL NOTE OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS
(WITH SOME OF WHOM NWC HAD MET EARLIER IN DAY) WHO CAME
TO NIGER AND ARE PREPARED TO LIVE EN BROUSSE UNDER
EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES, WHO LEARNED LOCAL
LANGUAGES, AND WHO CONTRIBTUE BOTH THEIR TECHNICAL
EXPERTISE, WHATEVER IT MIGHT BE, AS WELL AS FINE PERSONAL
QUALITIES WHICH HELP TO FORM STRONG BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN
PEOPLES. VOLUNTEERS, HE SAID, CREATE VERY
POSITIVE IMAGE FOR US IN NIGER.HECK

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